

BLANTON MUSEUM OF ART

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Blanton Museum's *SoundSpace* Spotlights Musicians Working Outside the Mainstream, Including Phil Niblock, Conlon Nanacarrow and Others



SoundSpace: Musical Outsiders

Sunday, June 14, 2015, 2pm

AUSTIN, Texas — May 12, 2015 — Inspired by the Blanton's current exhibition, *Wildly Strange: The Photographs of Ralph Eugene Meatyard*, this installment of the *SoundSpace* music series features work by musicians who operated outside the mainstream. Highlighting compositions by insurance salesmen, soldiers, scientists, and architects, the program will examine how these varied backgrounds led to experimentation and new musical approaches.

SoundSpace artistic director [Steven Parker](#) explains, "This program abstracts threads of Meatyard's life, artistic process and output, and presents musical parallels in the works of Niblock, Nancarrow, Hunt, and Weller. The performance will illuminate how the Blanton serves as an inspiring venue for interdisciplinary art performances."

Highlights of the program include a performance by Austin Symphony Orchestra Assistant Concertmaster **Molly Emerman** of player piano works by **Conlon Nancarrow**, plus a screening of **Dr. James Greson's** documentary, *Conlon Nancarrow, Virtuoso of the Player Piano*; and a performance by **Steve Parker** of rare works for double-belled euphonium and trombone by **Phil Niblock** —an economist and self-taught composer celebrated for his photographs of legendary New York jazz musicians, and for his association with the Sonic Arts Union.

The program also includes **Ingebrigt Haker-Flaken** of Austin/Norway and **Damon Smith, Sandy Ewen, and Danny Kamins** of Houston, presenting *Music For Meatyard*, inspired by Meatyard's "Sound Motion" photo series and his interest in the poetry of William Carlos Williams and concrete poetry; analog synth duos from **Rick Reed and Tara Bhattacharya** of Austin; Travis Weller presenting a new solo piece for hand made string instruments and custom electronics; and free jazz from Dallas-based trio **anteroom**, presenting works inspired by Meatyard's record collection.

Heralded by the *Austin American-Statesman* as “The most successful new music event in the City,” *SoundSpace* is organized for the Blanton by artistic director Steven Parker. A dynamic annual concert series that brings together musicians and other creatives from all corners of Austin's artistic community and beyond, *SoundSpace* is now in its sixth year. The series focuses on making connections between visual and sound art, and demonstrates the Blanton’s commitment to nurturing collaborations that provide innovative experiences with art, inspire creativity, and support the educational mission of The University of Texas at Austin.

SoundSpace is open to the public and included with the purchase of general museum admission: \$9 for adults, \$7 for seniors, \$5 for students, and free for Blanton Members, UT Students, Faculty and Staff, and Children 12 and under. More information can be found at www.blantonmuseum.org.

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About the Blanton Museum of Art:

Founded in 1963, the Blanton Museum of Art is one of the foremost university art museums in the country and holds the largest public collection in Central Texas. Recognized for its modern and contemporary American and Latin American art, Italian Renaissance and Baroque paintings, and encyclopedic collection of prints and drawings, the Blanton offers thought provoking, visually arresting, and personally moving encounters with art.

The museum is located at the intersection of Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard and Congress Avenue and is open Tuesday through Friday from 10 - 5, Saturday from 11-5, and Sunday from 1-5. Thursdays are free admission days and every third Thursday the museum is open until 9. Admission Prices: Adults \$9, Kids 12 and under FREE, Seniors (65+) \$7, Youth/College Students (13-21) \$5. Admission is free to members, all current UT ID-holders. For additional information call (512) 471-7324 or visit www.blantonmuseum.org.

For more information contact:

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Photo Captions:

SoundSpace: Music and Dance, October 2011

Photos by Elisa Ferrari